

**California Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of the Secretary  
Tribal Affairs**

**May 29, 2012**

**TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY & BEST PRACTICES IN MEANINGFUL STATE GOVERNMENT - TRIBAL CONSULTATION**

**Tribal Training Part 1 of 2**

**9 am - noon**

**Coastal Hearing Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)**

**Cal/EPA Headquarters Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**

**Audience:** California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA or Agency) Executive Staff, Senior Management, Attorneys, Tribal Liaisons and other State Agency Executive Staff, Senior Management, Counsel and Tribal Liaisons

**Time:** 3 hour training

**Background:** On September 19, 2011, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued Executive Order B-10-11 which directs state government to implement effective government-to-government consultation between California state government and Tribes on policies that affect California tribal communities. Executive Order B-10-11 requires state government to strengthen communication and collaboration with Native American Tribes. These directives may be achieved through recognition and understanding of the inherent sovereign authority of tribes over their members and territory; developing consultation policies; cooperating and engaging in meaningful consultation that may result in the adoption and implementation of mutually-beneficial policies.

**Purpose:** This training will provide an overview of the history of California tribal-state relations, the legal basis for Tribal sovereignty in relation to tribal government operations, and the unique relationship between Tribal and state Governments in a Public Law 280 state. This training will outline current cultural and political concerns of Tribal governments in California to assist state government representatives to better understand Tribes and information on cooperating and engaging in meaningful consultation that may result in the adoption and implementation of mutually-beneficial policies. Cal/EPA Agency Secretary Matthew Rodriquez will host this training with the first and newly appointed Governor's Tribal Advisor, Cynthia Gomez, will provide facilitation.

**9:00 a.m. – Opening Words & Importance of Tribal Sovereignty and Meaningful Tribal Consultation -**  
Governor's Tribal Advisor and California Native American Heritage Commission Executive Secretary Cynthia Gomez and California Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Matthew Rodriquez

**9:15 a.m. – Historical and Legal Foundations that Shaped Tribal Governments in California –**  
Ms. Raquelle Myers, Staff Attorney, National Justice Indian Center

**10:15 a.m. – Break**

**10:30 a.m. – Current Tribal Government Cultural and Political Mechanisms & Lessons Learned and Best Practices in State Government-Tribal Consultation and Communication –**

- Ms. Raquelle Myers, Staff Attorney, National Justice Indian Center
- Ms. Dore A. Bietz, Planner- Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria. Current Cal/EPA Tribal Advisory Committee Secretary and Cal/Trans Native American Advisory Committee Member

**11:45 p.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Closing Statement -** Mr. Matthew Rodriquez, Agency Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency

## Biographies

**Raquelle Myers** is a member of the Pinoleville Band of Pomo Indians. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from University of California at Berkeley and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Utah. She serves as Staff Attorney for the National Indian Justice Center and as the Chief Judge/Administrator for the Intertribal Court of California, a court of limited jurisdiction currently being developed in Northern California. She has served as a member of the National Task Force on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effect and also served on the CDSS Tribal Government Advisory Committee. She is currently a member of the California Judicial Council's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Bias. Ms. Myers serves as a trainer for NIJC regional and on-site training sessions developed for tribal government personnel. She also teaches undergraduate courses on Federal Indian Law, California Indian History, and Tribal Government at the University of California at Berkeley.

**Dore Bietz** is a Northern and Southern Me-Wuk and resides on the Tuolumne Rancheria. After receiving a degree in Landscape Architecture, Ms. Bietz has worked for Tribes specializing in realty and land use. As a former Tribal Council member, Ms. Bietz understands the complexities of Tribal Governments and the need to foster better communication between Tribes and various agencies. An expert in California Indian land issues, Ms. Bietz has testified in front of Congress, worked with the administration on land regulations and served as a technical consultant to Tribes throughout the country. Ms. Bietz currently works as a Planner for the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council where she is involved in every aspect of community development.